

**Patent Claims**

1. A stage-gearbox (9) for motor vehicles, comprising an unsynchronized basic gearbox (15, 17, 21, 18, 22, 19, 23, 20, 28, 30), at least one synchronized auxiliary gear (12, 13, 15, 16, 17) and at least one control unit (45) for controlling engagement and disengagement of the gears of the gearbox (9) and also neutral position, characterized in that the control unit (45) is arranged so as, when input signals indicating that neutral position is selected are received, to put the synchronized auxiliary gear (12, 13, 15, 16, 17) in neutral position.

2. The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the control unit (45) is arranged so as in the basic gearbox (15, 17, 21, 18, 22, 19, 23, 20, 28, 30) to keep the previous selected gear engaged while the neutral position is occupied.

3. The stage-gearbox as claimed in either of the preceding claims, characterized in that the auxiliary gear consists of a split gear (12, 13, 15, 16, 17) or a range gear (32).

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